

Contact: Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District, (307) 326-2500

## **Brush Creek/Hayden District Offers Free Firewood Permits**

(SARATOGA, WY - Aug. 3, 2011) – Beginning today, firewood gatherers can stop in at the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District in Saratoga and get a free-use firewood permit. This program allows the public to gather firewood at specific sites on the Medicine Bow National Forest where beetle-killed and other hazard trees have been cut and stacked. Participation in the program does require a firewood permit.

The free-use permits are available to the public beginning today, August 3, 2011 and through December 31, 2011. Users can obtain permits for up to 20 cords per household.

Currently, wood for these permits is available at Hog Park Campground and on a section of Highway 70 (Battle Highway). Maps of the free-use firewood areas will be provided with the issued permits. Other areas may be added at a later date.

Public gathering of the wood helps to remove excessive amounts of dead trees from multiple sites and reduces public safety hazards. Firewood gatherers need to respect the rights of other forest users by not blocking roads, adhering to recreation area quiet times and not gathering wood within an occupied campsite.

For information call 307-326-5258, or stop by the office at South Highway 130, Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

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